ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus for receiving a model of a dental arch of a patient is provided. The apparatus comprises a generally U-shaped base portion and at least three spaced-apart radio-opaque members secured to the base. An extension may project from the base portion and may include a fourth radio-opaque member secured to the extension. The apparatus also includes means for securing the apparatus to a mounting surface. Also provided is a positioning apparatus and method for enabling use of the model-receiving apparatus to position the dental arch model within a dental articulator to simulate the position of the dental arch in a skull. The positioning apparatus includes a first member, a second slidable with respect to the first member and a third member slidable with respect to the second member. One or more adjustment members and a locating member are provided on the second and third members and are positionally adjustable with respect to surfaces of the second and third members to impart an orientation to a mounting surface representative of a plane in which a dental arch of a patient lies. A method for securing the positioning apparatus in a dental articulator is also provided.